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1981/06/17

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*** Current Classification *** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

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DATE= 17 JUN 81

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OR-M
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SUBJECT= LETTER TO SENATOR BAKER FROM THE SECRETARY

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LOCATOR= TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

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CONCEPTS= SECTO, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, BRIEFINGS, MEETINGS

TAGS= OVIP, US, RP, CH, (HAIG, ALEXANDER M JR), (BAKER, HOWARD H JR)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE	IS/FPC/CDR <u>TRB</u> Date: <u>12/5/96</u>
() RELEASE	() DECLASSIFY
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() DENY	IN PART
() DELETE Non-Responsive Info	TS authority to:
FOIA Exemptions	() CLASSIFY as () S or
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ACTION SS-15

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5892

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 04100

SECTO

FOR S/S - PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING LETTER TO SENATOR BAKER
FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 12065: GDS 6/17/81 (ROPE, WILLIAM)
TAGS: OVIP (HAIG, ALEXANDER M.)
SUBJECT: LETTER TO SENATOR BAKER FROM THE SECRETARY

1. (~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.)
2. DEAR HOWARD:
3. AS I LEAVE BEIJING, I WANTED TO GIVE YOU A BRIEF REPORT
ON MY MEETINGS WITH TOP CHINESE LEADERS. OUR TALKS WERE
COMPREHENSIVE AND REASSURING; THEY AFFIRMED OUR STRATEGIC
CONVERGENCE OF VIEWS IN A WAY CERTAIN TO HELP BUILD A
STRONG AND LASTING US-CHINA RELATIONSHIP.
4. IN ADDITION TO OUR DISCUSSIONS OF GLOBAL CONCERNS, WE
UNVEILED A NEW PACKAGE OF BILATERAL INITIATIVES DESIGNED
TO TREAT CHINA AS A FRIENDLY BUT NOT ALLIED COUNTRY. WE
TALKED ABOUT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S DIRECTIVE TO LIBERALIZE
CONTROLS ON THE EXPORT OF DUAL-USE TECHNOLOGY SO THAT OUR
BUREAUCRACY WILL TREAT CHINESE REQUESTS DIFFERENTLY FROM
THOSE OF THE USSR. IN ADDITION, WE'VE IDENTIFIED A NUMBER
OF OLDER LAWS WHICH LUMP CHINA TOGETHER WITH THE SOVIET
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UNION AND WE'RE PLANNING TO PROPOSE LEGISLATION TO CONGRESS
TO EFFECT APPROPRIATE AMENDMENTS. I HOPE TO HAVE YOUR
SUPPORT.

5. IN THIS SAME CONTEXT, WE INDICATED TO THE CHINESE THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN INTENDS TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF EXAMINING REQUESTS FOR THE TRANSFER OF MILITARY WEAPONS AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE SAME MANNER AS WE DO THOSE OF ALL OTHER FRIENDLY NATIONS WITH WHOM WE DO NOT HAVE AN ADVERSARIAL RELATIONSHIP. THIS WILL BE EXPLORED FURTHER WHEN PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY VICE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF LIU HUAQING VISITS THE U.S. IN AUGUST, BUT I CAN SAY NOT THAT WE HAVE MADE NO DECISIONS ON PROVIDING ANY SPECIFIC WEAPONS TO CHINA PENDING THEIR MAKING THEIR INTERESTS KNOWN. WE WOULD THEN PROCEED ON A CAREFUL, CASE-BY-CASE BASIS. WE WILL, OF COURSE, CONSULT CLOSELY WITH OUR ALLIES AND FRIENDS ABROAD AS WELL AS WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS.

6. AS YOU KNOW, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION BEFORE MY DEPARTURE THAT THE CHINESE WOULD GIVE ME A TOUGH MESSAGE ON TAIWAN. WHILE NOTHING OCCURRED WHICH WOULD DISTRACT US NOW FROM THE LARGER STRATEGIC IMPERATIVES OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, DENG AND HIS SUBORDINATES DID MAKE CLEAR THAT THE WAY IN WHICH THE U.S. DEALS WITH TAIWAN, AND THE QUESTION OF U.S. DEFENSIVE ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN IS ONE OF GREAT SENSITIVITY FOR THE PRC. I WOULD EXPECT THAT ANY SIGNIFICANT SALES WILL GENERATE OPPOSITION FROM THE PRC. WE ASSURED DENG THAT WE WOULD KEEP OUR RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN UNOFFICIAL, EVEN AS WE TREAT OUR OLD FRIENDS MORE HONORABLY, AND WITH GREATER DIGNITY, AND THAT WE WOULD FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPLES OF THE U.S.-CHINA JOINT/NORMALIZATION COMMUNIQUE. ON ARMS SALES, I SAID THESE WOULD GO FORWARD, BUT WE WOULD TAKE CHINESE SENSITIVITIES

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INTO ACCOUNT.

7. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OUR TALKS WITH THE CHINESE LEADERS. OUR STRATEGIC COOPERATION IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE AND WE MUST PROTECT THESE INTERESTS AS BEST WE CAN. WE WILL NEED TO DEMONSTRATE OUR RELIABILITY AND RESOLVE BOTH TOWARD THE CHINESE AND OTHER FRIENDS AND ALLIES AND IN OUR RESTORATION OF NATIONAL STRENGTH AND PURPOSE. WE, OF COURSE, WILL HAVE TO PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY ON THE QUESTION OF ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN.

8. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON MY RETURN FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, I REMAIN, SINCERELY YOURS,
ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR. HAIG

—NOT PASSED BY OC/T.

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